

Abstract

A retainer member formed of bone secures tissue against movement relative to a portion of a bone in a patient's body. The retainer member is utilized to form an opening in a compact outer layer of a portion of the bone in the patient's body. The retainer member formed of bone is advantageously enclosed in a tubular member or sleeve to prevent breaking of the retainer member during the forming of the opening in the bone. The extent of movement of the retainer member into the bone in the patient's body is determined as the retainer member is moved into the bone. A suture may be connected with the retainer member and used to connect tissue with the bone. The retainer member may be positioned across a fracture in a bone to hold portions of the bone on opposite sides of the fracture against movement relative to each other. The retainer member may be used at a joint between end portions of bones to immobilize the joint. The joint may be released for movement by breaking the retainer member formed of bone.

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